

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Preliminary Amendment-A the claims in the application are claims 1-6, 8-10 and 73-78, of which claims 1 and 73 are independent.

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the features of dependent claim 7 (now cancelled), new claim 73 corresponds to claim 5 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of claim 1 from which it formerly depended, and new claims 74-78 are identical to claims 2, 6, 8, 9, and 10, respectively, except that they depend from claim 73 rather than claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the above amendments are fully supported by the original application, including the original claims, and that no new matter is added by the amendments.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter set forth at item 9 of the Office Action. In view of the above amendments, in which amended claim 1 is effectively claim 7 rewritten in independent form, claim 73 is claim 5 rewritten in independent form, and all other claims depend from either claim 1 or claim 73, all claims in the application are now believed to be allowable based on the Examiner's comments at item 9.

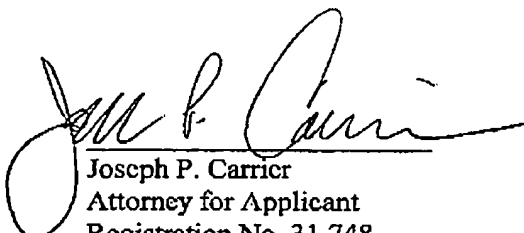
Moreover, the application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

A Petition For One-Month Extension is being filed concurrently herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

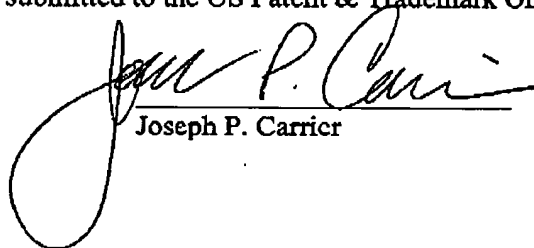
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted to the US Patent & Trademark Office via facsimile transmission on March 2, 2005.



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